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RURAL DISTRICT OF CHAILEY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

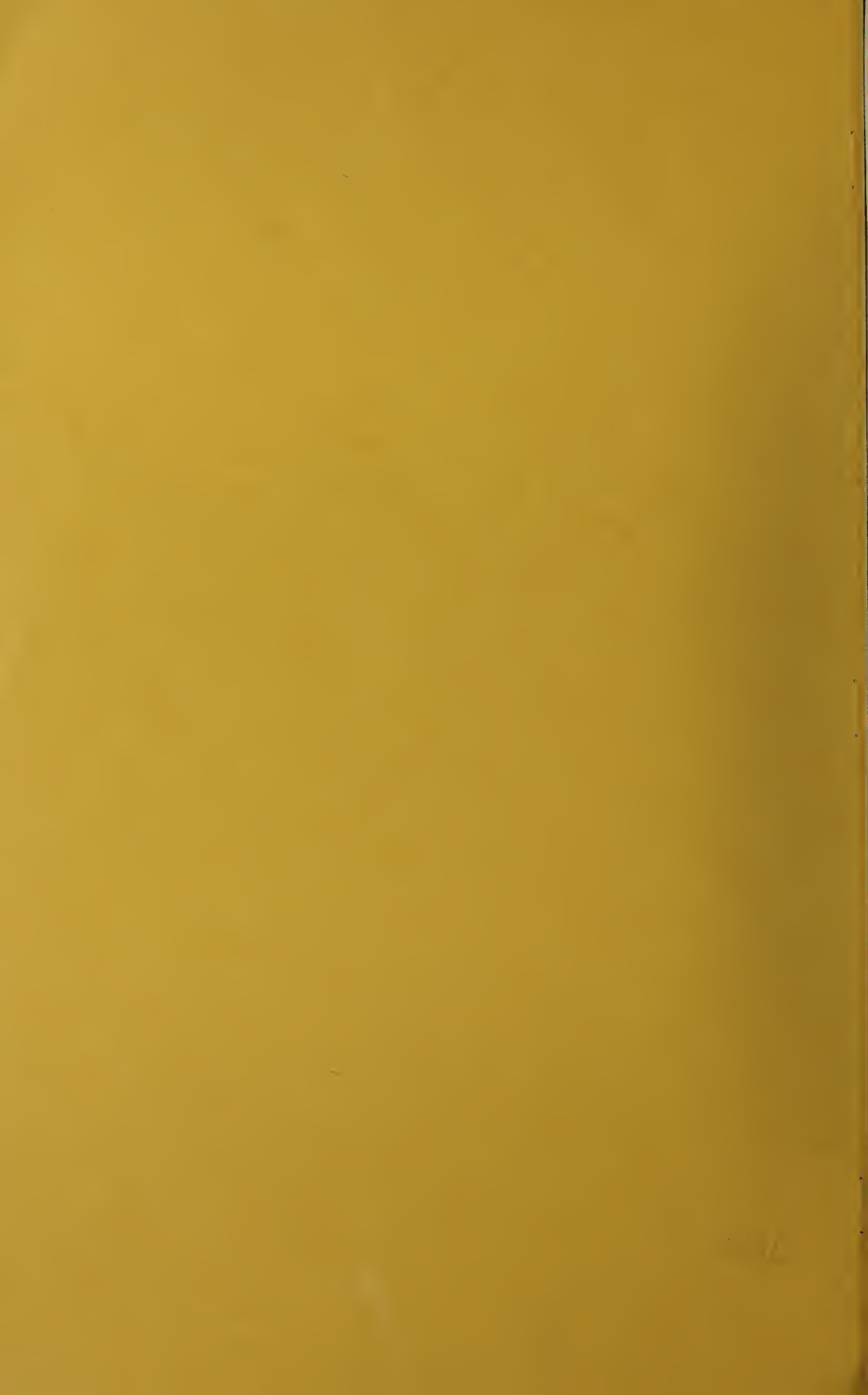
for the

Year Ended 31st December, 1957



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Public Health Department,  
Lewes House,  
LEWES,  
Sussex.



## CHAILEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,  
Lewes House,  
LEWES.

May, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the Chailey Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the inhabitants and on the sanitary conditions of the Chailey Rural District for the year 1957.

The estimated population for 1957 of the district was 20,800. In 1948 the estimated population was 20,080. The increase of 720 in population from 1948 to 1957 was more due to the number of people who immigrated into the area which exceeded the number of those who emigrated out of it than to the excess of births over deaths in that time.

The Rural District of Chailey has been a favourite place to retire to for very good reasons. An excellent climate with charming rural scenery, propinquity to the sea and, for a change from secluded rural retreats, journeys can be made by facilities existing for visits to large centres of population as nearby towns and the metropolis. Retired people and others have come to live in the rural district from all over the country and it would seem that this trend is continuing. At present housing development is particularly active in Peacehaven, Telscombe Cliffs and Saltdean. In spite of deterrents to retirement at ages at which people were able to retire formerly the rural district still attracts immigrants into it and possibly will continue to do so in the future. Cognizance of an increasing population is an important point to bear in mind since many things are affected by it, such as housing, water supplies, sewage disposal and many other matters which fall to the lot of local government to deal with.

The crude birth rate for 1957 was 11.44 per 1,000 population. In order that the birth rate may be compared fairly with that of other areas and with that of England and Wales as a whole, a comparability factor was applied to the crude rate. This resulted in a comparable birth rate of 13.38 for the Rural District as against 16.1 for England and Wales for the same year.

The crude death rate was 17.74 per 1,000 population. This represented a total of 369 deaths of which 104 were deaths of people not Chailey residents who died in institutions in the area. The remaining 265 were of Chailey residents and this gave a crude death rate of 12.74. The comparability factor applied to the latter crude rate gave a comparable death rate of 7.39 as compared with 11.5 for England and Wales for 1957.

No mothers died in or in consequence of childbirth during the year. The maternal mortality was thus nil. Only one maternal death has been recorded in the rural district in the last eight years and the average annual maternal mortality for that period was 0.41 as compared with 0.72 for England and Wales for the same period. This is most gratifying and shows that the chances of mothers in your district dying in or in consequence of childbirth are very small. Great credit must be given to doctors and nurses associated with the care and management of mothers for the attainment of such a desirable state of affairs.

The Infantile Mortality Rate or the deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births for 1957 was 37.81. Although this was a higher rate than usual, the numbers involved are so small, nine deaths in this case, that they have little statistical significance. The fact



that less children under one year of age are dying is due to the use of antibiotics and sulpha drugs. These drugs are most effective in the treatment of infectious diseases, lung diseases and diarrhoea which formerly caused considerable mortality. It is also due to a higher standard of child care. There will always be the odd death in some years from such causes as congenital defects, premature birth and the like, which give an infant very small chances of survival.

One death was notified during the year as being due to pulmonary tuberculosis. This gave a death rate of 0.05 per 1,000 population. In 1949 eleven deaths were recorded and the death rate was 0.54 per 1,000 population. In 1929 there were no less than 23 deaths, which gave a death rate of 1.74. These figures speak for themselves. The dramatic fall in the death rate is due to many factors such as more intensive case finding, the use of new drugs and anti-biotics, improved surgical technique, improved nutrition and better housing accommodation of infected cases. There has also been a shift in the ages at which death occurred. In 1929 no less than 16 of the total deaths were at ages from 10 years to 44 years; in 1949 out of a total of 11 deaths 7 died at ages from 45 years to 65 years and over and in 1957 the single death which occurred was of a woman over 65 years old. During the year under review there were no deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. In the last eight years there have been only three deaths from this cause, while five were recorded in the one year 1933. The extension of T.T. herds, the elimination of tuberculous cattle and the pasteurisation of milk have all helped to reduce the death rate and the incidence of non-pulmonary tuberculosis since most of the cases in the past were caused through the consumption of infected milk.

The chief causes of death in 1957 were heart disease, cancer and vascular lesions of the nervous system, amounting to about 70% of the total deaths. Twenty years ago these three main causes were responsible for about 50% of the total deaths. The reason for the increase is two fold - a better control over the common infectious diseases and the increased longevity of the population. On the one hand infectious diseases are more easily prevented and cured, and on the other there are more people in the older age groups where heart disease, cancer and vascular lesions of the nervous system are more prone to occur.

The average age at death in the Chailey Rural District in 1957 was 72 years. The care of old people who cannot look after themselves is a problem which has been with us for many years. At present about 97 per cent of old people live independent lives and the remaining 3 per cent occupy accommodation in hospitals, mental hospitals, institutions or nursing homes. A sample from the 1951 Census showed that the proportion of men over 65 years and women over 60 years was 1 in 7 of the total population. Fifty years ago the proportion was 1 in 17 and since that time there has been a steady increase of old people due to the increased longevity. It is estimated that in 1977 the proportion of old people in the general population will be 1 in 5. If this assumption proves anywhere near the forecasted proportion, more accommodation for old people will be required by means of small dwellings for those who can live independent lives, where no place can be found for them with the younger members of their families or simply because they are unwanted by their younger relatives. It is certain that there must be an increase in accommodation in hospitals and institutions and the like especially in hospitals for incurable cases as people reach higher ages in the future and the proportion of old people increases. Many of the elderly do not remain in a static state of health but hover between health and sickness and it is thus difficult to classify them at times as being sick or as being infirm and this problem is for a specially appointed geriatric physician. There should be also specially appointed medical Officers and nurses to advise on the prevention of mental and physical deterioration in ageing people and this work should be carried out in the home. Where people retire and there is a sudden break in routine which can cause mental and physical deterioration, boredom and sense of uselessness have often precipitated the first fatal steps towards relinquishing a hold on life. Continuation in some sort of employment or hobby suitable to one's capabilities does much to maintain health.



Cases of infectious diseases in the Chailey Rural District in 1957 numbered 218 of which measles accounted for 95 cases and whooping cough for 65. The cases of measles had a mild form of the disease. The mortality from measles has declined during the last twenty years and nowadays it is very rare for a fatality to occur. Improved medication has brought about this result partly and it has also been contributed to by the mildness of the disease. Whooping cough has lost much of its severity through the use of anti-biotics and the fatality rate throughout the country is now very low. Immunisation against measles has given very doubtful results. There is now a prophylactic in use for immunisation against whooping cough and this has been adopted throughout the country. In experiments the prophylactic is said to have been most effective. The two diseases, measles and whooping cough, wax and wane from year to year as to the numbers of cases infected. Twenty-five cases of pneumonia were notified during the year. Scarlet fever was notified in five cases, one of which was admitted to hospital for treatment. Most of the cases were of the mild type and there were no fatalities. This disease, which once caused a heavy death roll, has become a very much diminished hazard due to the use of anti-biotics in treatment. Deaths are now very rare and complications and residual disablements are warded off. Fourteen cases of food poisoning were notified. They made quick recoveries. Five cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year, three of which were of the paralytic type and two non-paralytic. Four of the cases were discharged from hospital completely recovered and the fifth had fairly widespread weakness on leaving hospital but has improved greatly since discharge. Five cases of dysentery were notified and all made satisfactory and rapid recoveries. During the year no case of diphtheria was notified. The last case notified was in 1949 in a child who had not been immunised against the disease. The freedom from diphtheria has amply proved the effectiveness of immunisation. No case of any of the infectious diseases notified in 1957 died.

Regarding the sanitary circumstances and sanitary inspection of the area samples of water taken from the main supplies of the four statutory authorities serving the area showed that in every case the quality of the water was most satisfactory.

The scheme for the sewerage of Peacehaven was commenced in 1957 and the first phase of the scheme was nearing completion at the end of the year. Various other proposals to sewer areas in the rural district have been held in abeyance owing to the credit squeeze.

The demand for the cesspool emptying service continues to increase and the disposal of the contents of the cesspools becomes increasingly difficult.

During the year 196 new houses were completed in the Chailey Rural District of which number 59 were erected in Peacehaven, 32 in Telscombe Cliffs, 72 in East Saltdean and 33 in other areas of the district.

During 1957, 77 grants were approved under the Improvement Grants Act and in 67 of the cases the necessary works were completed during the year.

Three private slaughterhouses were in operation in the Rural District during the year and the conduct of these was satisfactory. Construction of a new modern slaughterhouse was commenced in the parish of Wivelsfield during the year.

The many duties of the Public Health Inspector in connection with the abatement of nuisances; housing inspections; tents, vans and sheds; the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations; the Food and Drugs Acts; the Factories' Act and with many other matters were carried out efficiently during the year.

My thanks are due to the Health Committee for their kindness and encouragement during the year and to other officials for their helpfulness and courtesy at all times.

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen, I remain,

Yours obediently,

G. M. DAVIDSON LOBBAN, M.B., Ch.B.,  
D.P.H., F.R.S.I. etc.

Medical Officer of Health



## SECTION I

### Statistics for the Area, 1957

Area ( in acres) .....	64,216
Population (estimated) .....	20,800
Rateable Value as at 1st April 1957 ....	282,814
Product of a Penny Rate, 1957-8 .....	1,162

### Extracts from Vital Statistics

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Crude Rates</u> <u>per 1,000</u> <u>Population</u>
<u>Live Births</u>				
Legitimate	110	116	226	
Illegitimate	6	6	12	
			<u>238</u>	11.44
<u>Deaths</u>	168	201	369	17.74
Deaths (excluding deaths of non-residents in institutions)	135	130	265	12.74
				<u>Rate per 1,000</u> <u>Live and Still</u> <u>Births</u>
Maternal Mortality	-	0	0	0.00
				<u>Rate per 1,000</u> <u>Live Births</u>
Infantile Mortality	5	4	9	37.81

### POPULATION

The Registrar-General's estimate of the Chailey Rural District population for the year 1957 was 20,800. The following table shows the annual population of the Rural District for the past ten years, together with the numbers of births and deaths and the birth rates and death rates each year during the same period:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Births</u>	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>
1948	20,080	315	252	15.68	12.54
1949	20,480	297	248	14.50	12.11
1950	20,340	285	243	14.01	11.95
1951	20,510	270	276	13.16	13.46
1952	19,540	238	244	12.18	12.48
1953	18,840	233	356	12.37	18.89
1954	19,110	233	312 adj.	12.19	16.33 adj.
1955	19,430	256	303 260	13.17	15.59 13.38
1956	20,200	254	361 290	12.57	17.87 14.36
1957	20,800	238	369 265	11.44	17.74 12.74

The estimated population figure for mid-1957 (20,800) shows an increase of 600 on the previous year's total of 20,200. This is the highest population figure the district has ever achieved and it is nearly 300 higher than the total recorded immediately before the boundary adjustments in 1952 and 1953.

Three hundred and sixty-nine deaths were recorded in the Rural District during 1957, this being very slightly more than the total of 361 recorded in 1956. The total of 369 deaths gives a crude death rate of 17.74 per thousand population. This figure however, includes the deaths of persons from other districts who have died in Institutions in the area. When such deaths are excluded, a total of 265 deaths remains,

which gives a considerably reduced adjusted death rate of 12.74 per thousand population.

### Birth Rate

The crude birth rate for the year under review was 11.44 per 1,000 population, which is 1.13 less than the rate for the preceding year.

An area comparability figure of 1.17 is applicable to the crude birth rate. This factor is a compensating one for the purpose of securing a fair comparison with the birth rates of other areas. On applying the factor the comparable birth rate for the Chailey District is 13.38 per 1,000 population. The birth rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 16.1.

### Death Rate

The crude death rate for the District for 1957 was 17.74 per 1,000 population. Applying an area comparability factor of 0.58 for 1957 for the same reason as an area comparability factor was applied to the crude birth rate, a comparable death rate of 10.29 is arrived at. As mentioned above, if the non-resident institutional deaths are deducted from the gross total an adjusted rate of 12.74 per 1,000 population and an adjusted comparable death rate of 7.39 per 1,000 population is obtained. The death rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 11.5.

### CAUSES OF DEATH

During the year there was a total of 369 deaths, being 168 males and 201 females. The following table shows the causes of death:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Heart disease	71	83	154
Cancer	26	33	59
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	17	28	45
Pneumonia	7	9	16
Circulatory disease other than heart disease	7	6	13
Influenza	8	2	10
Accidents other than motor vehicle accidents	1	8	9
Nephritis and nephrosis	5	3	8
Hyperplasia of prostate	7	-	7
Bronchitis	2	2	4
Diabetes	1	3	4
Congenital malformations	1	2	3
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1	1
Leukaemia	-	1	1
Diseases of the respiratory system other than influenza, pneumonia and bronchitis	-	1	1
Ulcer of duodenum	1	-	1
Motor vehicle accident	-	1	1
Suicide	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	14	17	31
	168	201	369

As is usually the case in the Chailey Rural District, the chief cause of death in 1957 was heart disease, with 154 deaths. The disease causing the next greatest number of deaths was cancer, with 59 deaths, followed by vascular lesions of the nervous system with 45 deaths. This follows exactly last year's pattern.

The highest age at death was ..... 97 years  
The lowest age at death was ..... 45 minutes  
The average age at death was ..... 72.09 years



## SPECIFIC CAUSES OF DEATH

### Heart Disease and Diseases of the Circulatory System

Approximately three-sevenths of the total number of deaths in the area during 1957 were due to heart disease or diseases of the circulatory system. Most of these deaths occurred amongst elderly people, and 57 or over one third of the total of 167, took place in Institutions in the area.

### Cancer

Fifty-nine deaths due to cancer took place in Chailey Rural District during 1957, the total being ten less than that for the preceding year. The cancer death rate for the area was 2.84, which is higher than the rate of 2.09 for England and Wales. Of the total number of deaths due to cancer, fourteen were due to cancer of the lung or bronchus, twelve of which were of males and two of females.

### Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System

Vascular lesions of the nervous system include cerebral haemorrhage, cerebral embolism and thrombosis and other lesions. A total of 45 deaths in the Rural District were classified under this heading during 1957, 17 being males and 28 females. This is two less than last year's total of 47 deaths registered under the same heading. Most of these deaths occur amongst elderly persons and a good proportion of them take place in an Institution in the area to which elderly and infirm people are sent from surrounding areas as well as from the Chailey Rural District.

## SECTION II

### General Provision of Health Services in the Area

#### Public Health facilities of the Local Authority

During the period under review the Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Chailey also acted as Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Lewes and the Urban Districts of Newhaven and Seaford.

One Chief Public Health Inspector and two Public Health Inspectors carry out duties in the Rural District.

#### Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory, established at the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, has proved of great assistance during the year.

The Laboratory has carried out for the Rural District, free of charge, the examination of sputum, laryngeal, nose, throat and rectal swabs, urine and faeces and has also undertaken the examination of milk, water and ice cream. Samples of dried egg and sausages were also examined. Altogether the Laboratory carried out 280 different examinations for the Rural District during the year under review. This service is extremely valuable both to your Medical Officer of Health and to the medical practitioners practising in the District. It is particularly useful in providing a certain means of discovering whether or not a person has been invaded by the infective organisms causing tuberculosis or other infections and is also of great use in detecting any impurities or infective organisms in milk, ice-cream, water or food stuffs generally.

#### Ambulance Facilities

The provision of the ambulance service is the responsibility of the East Sussex County Council, which arranges for the two ambulances and one sitting case car stationed at Lewes to be available for the transfer of cases into hospital from this area, with the exception of cases from Wivelsfield, when the service stationed at Haywards Heath is used, from Ditchling, when the service stationed at Hurstpierpoint is implemented, and from South Heighton, Peacehaven, Tarring Neville, Piddinghoe and Telscombe, when the service stationed at Newhaven is used.

With the exception of the area served by the ambulance at Newhaven, both infectious and non-infectious cases are conveyed in the same ambulances and arrangements are in being for the disinfection of ambulances, bedding, clothing, etc., after use for the transport of an infectious case. The Newhaven ambulance, however, is not available for the transport of infectious disease cases, but under the provisions of the Ambulance Scheme, ambulances from adjacent ambulance stations can be called upon, if required, for the conveyance of infectious disease cases. Generally, arrangements are made for any further calls received when all the ambulances of a particular station are out on duty to be dealt with by another station in the County Council's area.

The East Sussex County Council provides facilities for the transport of tuberculous patients.

#### Nursing in the Home

As in previous years, the East Sussex County Council, as empowered by Section 25 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, has arranged for this service to be provided by the East Sussex County Nursing Association through the District Nursing Associations.



## Hospitals

The South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board is responsible for the provision of hospital accommodation. The accommodation available in the area remains materially the same as it was prior to the passing of the Act.

## Clinics and Treatment Centres

The following is a list of clinics and treatment centres available during 1957 for residents of the District:-

Description and Situation	Day and Time of Attendance	By Whom Provided
Chest Clinic, Victoria Hospital, Lewes.	By appointment. Monday morning 9.30. Wednesday and Friday afternoons 2.0.	Regional Hospital Board
Orthopaedic Clinic, Y.M.C.A., Lewes.	Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 9.30 - 12.30. By appointment.	Mid-Sussex Hospital Board
Artificial Pneumothorax, Victoria Hospital, Lewes.	Friday mornings 11.0 onwards Women first.	Regional Hospital Board
Nervous Disorders Clinic, Victoria Hospital, Lewes.	Every Tuesday afternoon from 2 o'clock onwards.	Regional Hospital Board

In addition to the above there are Infant Welfare Centres and Dental and Minor Ailment Clinics available for residents in the area.

## Provisions for the Care of Mental Defectives

The East Sussex County Council deals with the Lunacy and Mental Deficiency Services in respect of patients outside Institutions. All institutional care is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board.

### SECTION III

#### Sanitary Circumstances and Sanitary Inspection of the Area

##### 1. Water Supply

The Statutory Water Authorities now serving the area within their respective limits of supply are:-

Newhaven, Seaford & Ouse Valley Water Company  
Brighton County Borough Council  
Lewes Borough Council  
Mid-Sussex Joint Water Board

The Water Undertakings have during the year submitted from time to time copies of Analyst's Reports of samples taken by them and in all cases a high degree of purity has been maintained.

Below is laid out a copy of a random sample of water taken in the district and supplied from the Offham Pumping Station:

Taken on the 4th April 1957, and showed the following characteristics on arrival:

Appearance	-	Clear and bright
Odour	-	None
Colour	-	Less than 10 Hazen

##### Chemical Results in Parts Per Million

Total solids .....	260
Chlorine (as chloride) .....	23
Ammoniacal Nitrogen .....	0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen .....	0.02
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours .....	0.10
Nitrate Nitrogen .....	3.0
Nitrite Nitrogen .....	NIL
Hardness (total) .....	210
Hardness (carbonate) .....	185
Hardness (non-carbonate) .....	25
Alkalinity .....	185
Metallic impurity .....	Iron (Fe) 0.15
PH .....	7.3
Fluoride (F) .....	Less than 0.15
Residual Chlorine (on receipt) .....	0.05

##### Bacteriological Examination

The organisms per ml. which grew on Nutrient Agar in three days at 22°C. under aerobic conditions and were then visible to the naked eye as colonies numbered ..... 0

On Agar at blood temperature and under aerobic conditions colonies were noticed after two days incubation ..... 1

Probable number of Coli-Aerogenes organisms in 100 ml. of the original water ..... 0

##### Report

Both chemically and bacteriologically the above results are satisfactory, and I am of opinion that this water is perfectly safe for drinking purposes, and suitable for a public supply.

J. REDMAN



The Newhaven, Seaford and Ouse Valley Water Company have extended their pumping operations in the parish of Norton and it is, therefore, necessary that careful watch should be maintained upon the sewage disposal arrangements for the hamlet of Norton. Several of the soakaways have been discontinued and two larger water-tight cesspools have been substituted. The Council, however, are generally of the opinion that the sewage disposal system is necessary for this area and negotiations have continued with the Seaford U.D.C. with the object of a combined scheme for the sewerage of Norton and Bishopstone jointly in the interests of water protection.

Water samples were taken from 18 private supplies and three public supplies during the year, with the following results:

Private supplies:

Satisfactory	-	10
Unsatisfactory	-	8

Public supplies:

Satisfactory	-	3
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Sewage Disposal

During the year the schemes proposed by the Council have received a check due to the credit squeeze and the increase in the bank rate. It is hoped, however, that this check will be of a temporary nature and that in the coming year the Council will proceed with the schemes on which Public Enquiries have already been held.

Plumpton

Proposals for the sewage disposal in Plumpton have not proceeded since last year while the matter continues to be urgent.

Kingston

It is probable that construction work will start on this scheme in 1958.

Rodmell

This Parish scheme is linked with that of Kingston and it is hoped that the two schemes will commence at the same time.

South Highton

The proposal to sewer South Highton in parallel with sewerage of part of the Urban District of Newhaven has proceeded further during the year and it would appear probable that the work on the scheme will start during 1958.

Peacehaven

It is very pleasing to report that the long awaited scheme for the sewerage of this Parish commenced in 1957 and that by the end of the year the first section of this very important trunk sewer was nearing completion. The Second Phase of the scheme has already been sent to the Minister for his approval and it is hoped that this work will continue without any intervening interval of time. The East Sussex County Council on their part have started on their large programme of sewerage under the Private Streets Works Act in conjunction with the progress of the Council's sewer and the work is now proceeding at a good pace.

The rapid development in this area is most marked. The services now being provided are absolutely essential to the proper control and planning of the future of this expanding community.



It is of very considerable satisfaction to the officers and members of the Council to see the development for which they have worked so long actually in progress. It will take a number of years to accomplish the vast amount of work which is required to provide proper services for the whole of the area.

#### Newick and Chailey

While consent from the Minister to proceed with the scheme of the sewerage of these two Parishes was received during the year unfortunately, owing to the monetary position, commencement has been postponed for the time being.

#### Barcombe

While plans have been prepared for the reconstruction of these Works there has been no further progress during the year.

#### Ringmer

During the year further flooding of the sewer at Ringmer has given cause for concern. It has been resolved that further work be carried out to improve the existing sewers and it is hoped that work on this necessary extension will commence in 1959.

#### Firle

The Sewage Disposal Works at West Firle are now obsolete and this Works, like those at Barcombe built some 50 years ago, require reconstruction.

#### Refuse Collection

The increase in volume in house refuse continues particularly in the Peacehaven area and in order to cope with additional refuse a larger capacity refuse collecting vehicle is on order and should be in service early in 1958. The once fortnightly collection continues throughout the whole of the district.

The arrangement for the disposal of refuse, as in previous years, is by control tipping within the Borough of Lewes. This joint scheme continues to work economically and admirably.

#### Dustbins

The Council's dustbin hire scheme continues to operate modestly. At the end of the year there were 1076 dustbins out on hire. Applications are received steadily month by month. In 1959 the charge for the hire of dustbins will be increased to the new permitted maximum charge of 7/6d. per annum per bin.

#### Cesspool Emptying Service

Once again I have to report that the demand for this service has increased and that during the year the total number of tanks and/or cesspools emptied was 4,157 with a total of 8,347 loads. £2,739.13.3d. was collected by way of charges; this represents approximately one-third of the actual cost, the balance being a rate borne charge.

Some 70 tanks and/or cesspools are serviced at regular intervals varying from one week to six months including the regular emptying of sedimentation tanks and humus tanks at the small Sewage Disposal Works.

Four machines are still in full time service.



Disposal of the contents of cesspools is once again becoming more difficult and it is obvious that special arrangements will have to be made in the very near future for certain Sewage Works to be made suitable for the reception and treatment of the contents of cesspools. The amount it is now found necessary to tip into small Sewage Works is found to be having an adverse effect on the efficiency of the Plants. Wherever possible cesspool contents are disposed of on agricultural land but land tipping is being gradually curtailed by the reluctance of farmers to afford the facilities they have so readily given in the past. The extension of sewers it is hoped will ease the demand for the services of the cesspool emptying vehicles but at the time of writing this is not apparent.

Transport Department

All the Council's vehicles continue to be well maintained and serviced to a high standard at the Council's Southover Depot.

Nuisances

During the year Notices were served under the Public Health Act in 38 instances - six Statutory Notices were complied with.

Housing

The principal activity in housing during the year lay in the use of that Section of the Housing Act 1949 relating to Improvement Grants. Great care and interest is expended by the appropriate Committee in this direction. As will be seen in the Tables below the greater part of the Grants issued were for the purpose of improving farm workers' cottages. The Estate owners in the area have been co-operating admirably with the Officers of the Council in preparing programmes for reconditioning these properties. The results obtained give great satisfaction to all concerned and not least to the occupiers. The hot water and bathing facilities provided are deeply appreciated by the farm workers. The habit of the daily bath by workers at the end of each day's work is now widespread.

There is little need in the area for formal proceedings for the elimination of unfit property. A few are subject to Demolition Orders but the majority of unfit houses that become vacant are eagerly sought after for conversion purposes.

It is pleasing to record that the general improvement in housing standards in the district is improving in an orderly, rapid and satisfactory manner.

During the year a total of 196 new houses have been completed in the area. Their distribution is as follows:-

Peacehaven .....	59
Telscombe Cliffs .....	32
East Saltdean .....	72
Rest of the District .....	33
	<u>196</u>

Improvement Grants Approved

	Approved to Dec. 1954	Completed 1954	Approved 1955	Completed 1955	Approved 1956	Completed 1956	Approved 1957	Completed 1957
Rented	7	5	26	8	9	13	9	8
Tied	25	25	56	35	60	59	48	50
Owner occupied	6	7	18	16	17	11	20	9
TOTAL	38	37	100	59	86	83	77	67



## Housing Act 1936

Total number of dwelling houses inspected during year under Public Health Act and Housing Act .....	491
Number of Notices served under Section 9 of Housing Act 1936:-	
Informal .....	8
Statutory .....	2
Number of Notices served under Section II of the Housing Act 1936 .....	7
Number of dwellings demolished .....	5
Number of dwellings reconditioned with Improvement Grants..	67
Closing Orders (part) .....	1

## Slaughtering

Three slaughterhouses are still in operation in the district, two of them are small units used entirely in connection with small private butchers' establishments and one which is in full time use by a wholesaler.

At the time of writing a new modern slaughterhouse is being constructed in the parish of Wivelsfield to replace a very long established slaughterhouse which has been in the occupation of one family for several generations. It is gratifying to record the co-operation of the proprietor of this establishment in the one object of providing the best available facilities in connection with lairage, the slaughter halls and the storage of meat. In the design is included proposals for a chilled Hanging Room. It is expected that this new slaughterhouse will come into operation in the Spring of 1958. The Council have resolved that 100% meat inspection will be carried out. For this purpose it will be necessary for the Public Health Inspectors concerned to work a number of extra hours each day for which arrangements have been made.

Below is a Table showing the number of animals killed together with the amount of meat and offals found to be unfit for human consumption:

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. killed	707	206	322	1034	1378	-
No. inspected	707	206	322	1034	1378	-
<u>All diseases except</u> <u>T.B. and Cysticerci</u> Whole carcasses condemned						
	1	6	2	11	11	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned						
	166	53	6	135	146	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B and Cysticerci						
	23.6%	28.6%	2.4%	14.1%	11.4%	-
<u>T.B. ONLY</u> whole carcasses condemned						
	1	-	-	-	1	-



	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	18	29	-	-	48	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	2.6%	14%	-	-	3.5%	-
<u>Cysticercus Bovis</u>						
Part or organ	6	-	-	-	-	-
Refrigeration	6	-	-	-	-	-
Complete	-	-	-	-	-	-

Meat certified as unfit for human consumption:-

#### Cattle Excluding Cows

Carcase and full offals	T.B.	1
	Blackquarter	1
Part Carcases		
Forequarters	T.B.	5
Forequarters	Injury	1
Hindquarters	Injury	1
Heads and Tongues	T.B.	10
	Actinobacillosis	3
	Cysticercus Bovis	6
Livers	T.B.	1
	Flukes and/or Cirrhosis	89
	Abscesses	18
Lungs	Pneumonia	7
	T.B.	11
	Pleurisy	20
	Abscesses	2
Hearts	Pericarditis	1
	Cysticercus Bovis	6

#### Cows

Carcases and full offals	Septicaemia	2
	Extensive injuries	3
	Emaciation	1
Part Carcases		
Forequarters	T.B.	4
Heads and Tongues	T.B.	9
Livers	T.B.	7
	Flukes and/or Cirrhosis	30
	Abscesses	10
	Angioma	10
Lungs	Emphysema	3
	Pneumonia	3
	T.B.	26
	Pleurisy	6
	Abscesses	2

#### Calves

Carcases and Plucks	Immaturity	2
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## Pigs

Carcases .....	T.B. ....	1
	Pyæmia .....	1
	Erysipelas .....	2
	Septicæmia .....	6
	Oedema .....	1
	Jaundice .....	1
Part Carcases		
Forequarters .....	Injury .....	2
Loins .....	Bruising .....	2
Flanks .....	Mastitis .....	8
Legs .....	Injury .....	2
Heads and Tongues .....	T.B. ....	48
Plucks .....	Pleurisy .....	5
Livers .....	T.B. ....	2
	Cirrhosis .....	38
Lungs .....	Pneumonia .....	73
	Pleurisy .....	23
	T.B. ....	3

## Sheep

Carcases and offals .....	Emaciation .....	5
	Bruising savaging .....	4
	Jaundice .....	2
Lungs .....	Parasites .....	92
Livers .....	Parasites .....	63

During the year 97 pigs have been graded under the Ministry of Agriculture's scheme.

## Tents, Vans and Sheds

The Council's site at Rushey Hill continues to provide excellent accommodation for 145 caravans. Vacant sites are much sought after.

The private Caravan Site at Friars Bay, Peacehaven, with a capacity for 70 caravans, has been well conducted.

In 1957 five new Licences were issued authorising land to be used for caravan sites making a total of thirty-four licensed sites having a total accommodation for 109 caravans. These sites have been kept under observation.

## Milk and Dairies

There are three bottling establishments in the district, all of which are licensed to pasteurise milk. In connection with these and other establishments, 37 visits of inspection were made during the year.

## Petroleum Acts

A survey of electrically operated pumps showed that of 96 pumps 46 did not comply with the new Code of Practice which will come into operation in 1960.

## Keeping of Animals

There have been no complaints during the year as to the keeping of animals.

## Food and Drugs Act

During the year 704 inspections of slaughterhouses and food premises, including eating establishments, have been carried out.



Informal Notices were served in 3 instances only requiring improvement in cleanliness and decorations.

Seven applications for registration for the sale, manufacture and storage of ice cream were granted.

### Summary of Visits

House Inspections under Housing Regulations .....	204
Other Inspections of Houses not included above .....	287
Visits in connection with nuisances .....	208
Visits to slaughterhouses, butchers' shops and food premises .....	704
Visits to dairies and milk premises .....	37
Visits re drainage .....	1,058
Drains tested .....	526
Samples taken for analysis:-	
Faeces .....	39
Faeces/Urine .....	47
Ice Cream .....	14
Milk .....	25
Water .....	11
Visits in connection with water supplies .....	26
Visits in connection with infectious disease .....	56
Rooms fumigated - disinfected - fleas, flies & insects .....	24
Visits to sewage outfall works and sewers .....	499
Visits to refuse tips and in connection with refuse collection .....	30
Visits under Petroleum Acts .....	64
Visits in connection with salvage .....	9
Visits under Factories' Act .....	74
Visits in connection with tents, vans and sheds .....	83
Visits in connection with Shops' Acts .....	18
Miscellaneous visits .....	537

### Rodent Control

Visits for purposes of survey .....	649
Visits for purposes of treatment .....	351
New infestations found since .....	63
Infestations cleared .....	55
Estimated number of rats killed .....	953
Estimated number of mice killed .....	387

### Factories Act, 1937

#### Inspections:-

Premises	No. on Register	Inspec- tions	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	5	2	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	64	41	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' premises)	36	28	-	-
	111	74	3	-

Cases in which defects were found:-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were:		
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	-
Section 7 - Sanitary			
Conveniences -			
Unsuitable or			
Defective	3	2	-
Other offences against			
the Act (not includ-			
ing offences relating			
to Outwork)	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-
Inefficient Drainage of			
Floors	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act - Outworkers

Number on List: 2

Licences Issued

To Store Petrol .....	75
To Store Calcium of Carbide .....	1
To Store Cellulose .....	6
To Slaughter Animals .....	12
To Use Premises as Slaughterhouses .....	Nil
For Moveable Dwellings .....	5
Dealer's Licence to use Designation:-	
Pasteurised .....	16
Tuberculin Tested .....	14
Sterilised .....	7
Dealer's Supplementary Licence for the Sale of:-	
Pasteurised .....	7
Tuberculin Tested .....	8
Sterilised .....	4
Pet Animals Act, 1951 .....	1

Salvage Sales

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	£.	s.	d.
Mixed Wastepaper	10	19	3	0	66.	4.	6.
Mixed Cardboard	8	7	2	0	67.	0.	0.
Brass	-	-	4	0	6.	7.	6.
Lead	-	1	1	18	7.	1.	0.
Heavy Iron	1	8	2	0	7.	16.	9.
Light Iron	-	6	1	0		18.	9.
Rags	1	1	2	0	26.	17.	6.
Carpet	-	1	2	21		11.	10.
String	-	1	3	19		13.	5.
Mixed Metal - Irony	-	1	3	17	7.	12.	2.
	22	11	1	19	£191.	3.	5.



#### SECTION IV

### Prevalence of, and Control Over, Infectious and Other Diseases

#### Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) During the Year 1957

Disease	Cases		
	Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Measles	95	-	-
Whooping Cough	65	-	-
Pneumonia	25	-	-
Food Poisoning	14	-	-
Dysentery	5	-	-
Scarlet Fever	5	1	-
Poliomyelitis Paralytic	3	3	-
Non-Paralytic	2	2	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	-
Enteric Fever	2	-	-
	218	6	-

#### Measles

The ninety-five cases of measles represent nearly one-half of the total number of cases of infectious disease notified in the area during the year under review. All of the cases made satisfactory recoveries and no case was sufficiently serious to be admitted to hospital.

#### Whooping Cough

The sixty-five cases of whooping cough which were notified in the area during 1957 is a higher total than the average of 60 recorded during the eight post-war years immediately preceding the inauguration of the scheme whereby a combined vaccine offering protection against both diphtheria and whooping cough was made available to the public. This does not mean that the protection offered is ineffective, but does indicate that a decision on the matter can only be arrived at after a lengthy trial period.

#### Pneumonia

Twenty-five cases of pneumonia were notified during 1957. This represents a fall of nineteen cases from the total of forty-four notified in 1956. None of the cases were admitted to hospital and all made satisfactory recoveries.

#### Food Poisoning

Fourteen cases of food poisoning were notified in the rural district during 1957. Although nine of these occurred within a week and in homes not far apart, it was not possible to find a cause of the outbreak. A further four cases occurred in one household about a fortnight later and not far from the first outbreak, but again it was not possible to trace the cause of the illness. The last case occurred some nine weeks after the last case notified and was in another parish. Here again, no cause of the illness was found. All cases made satisfactory recoveries and none were admitted to hospital.

### Dysentery

Five cases of dysentery were notified during January of 1957. All cases occurred in a large institution in the rural district, and all made satisfactory recoveries. All except one of the cases were children, two years old or less. The fifth case was of a sixteen year old girl.

### Scarlet Fever

Five cases of scarlet fever were notified in the rural district during 1957. One case was admitted to hospital and all cases made rapid and satisfactory recoveries.

### Poliomyelitis

Five cases of confirmed poliomyelitis occurred in the area during the year under review. The following table gives particulars of the five cases:-

Sex	Age	Paralytic or Non- Paralytic		Period in Isolation Hospital	
F	17 yrs.	N.P.	-	12.1.57. - 5.3.57.	Discharged well.
M	17 yrs.	P.	Weakness both legs. Right more than left.	10.7.57. - 18.9.57.	Discharged well.
M	19 yrs.	P.	Slight para- lysis left leg.	20.8.57. - 5.10.57.	Discharged well.
F	20 yrs.	N.P.	-	23.8.57. - 25.9.57.	Discharged well.
M	19 yrs.	P.	Both legs, back and shoulders.	15.12.57. -	Discharged with fairly wide- spread weak- ness, but improving.

It is satisfactory to note that only one case left hospital with any residual weakness and this case shows considerable improvement as time passes.

### Puerperal Pyrexia

Only two cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified in the rural district during 1957. This represents a low rate of incidence of this feverish condition sometimes experienced by women after childbirth.

### Enteric Fever

Two cases of enteric fever were notified in the area during 1957. Both cases made satisfactory recoveries.



## General

As usual, more cases of measles occurred than of any other infectious disease. It is disappointing to see the number of cases of whooping cough again rising, but it is hoped that this will be an isolated phenomenon and that the reduced numbers experienced since the introduction of the combined diphtheria-whooping cough vaccine will again become the rule. While the number of cases of food poisoning is larger than usual, these comprise two small outbreaks and one isolated case. All the cases of dysentery occurred as one outbreak in an institution in the area and all were of a mild type of the disease. Two of the five cases of poliomyelitis were mild and of the non-paralytic type. Of the remaining three cases of the disease, which were of the paralytic type, only one case was left with any residual weakness, and this case shows steady improvement since leaving hospital.

# SECTION V

## Tuberculosis

In 1957 thirty cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and four cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, whilst during the year there was one death due to pulmonary tuberculosis. Of the cases notified sixteen pulmonary cases and two non-pulmonary cases were transfers in- to the area which had previously been notified elsewhere. One pulmonary case was restored to the register during the year and again deleted before the end of the year. Deducting these from the original figures a total of thirteen new pulmonary cases and two new non-pulmonary cases is left. Two of the new cases left the district before the end of the year. Details are given in the following table, "transfers-in" being indicated by a "T" and "transfers-out" by "T.O."

### 1957 - NEW CASES AND MORTALITY

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary M	Pulmonary F	Non-Pulmonary M	Non-Pulmonary F	Pulmonary M	Pulmonary F	Non-Pulmonary M	Non-Pulmonary F
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
10	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	2+1 re-stored & deleted.	-	-	-	-	-	-
20	2+2T.O.	1T	-	1T	-	-	-	-
25	1+2T	3T	-	1T	-	-	-	-
35	4T	1+3T	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	2+2T	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	1T	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
65 & upwards	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	(9T 18 2T.O)	(7T 12 restored - & then T.O)		4 (2T)	-	1	-	-





